

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07

OES-03 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W

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R 231455Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4549

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2449

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PL, GW

SUBJECT: FRG-POLISH RELATIONS: "SIGNALS FROM BEYOND THE ELBE"

REF: WARSAW 2122

1. UNDER THE ABOVE HEADING, SLOWO POWSZECHNE EDITOR JANUSZ STEFANOWICZ ON APRIL 22 COMMENTED FAVORABLE ON RECENT STATEMENTS BY CDU OFFICIAL GERHARD SCHROEDER IN A KOELNER STADT ANZEIGER INTERVIEW AND ON FOLLOW-UP REMARKS BY FRG SPOKESMAN KLAUS BOELLING. STEFANOWICZ APPLAUDED SCHROEDERS POINTS THAT THE 1970 FRG-POLISH TREATY FORMED ONLY THE BASIS FOR A STILL UNFULFILLED NORMALIZATION, THAT REMAINING BILATERAL PROBLEMS MUST BE RESOLVED, AND THAT CONTINUED FAILURE TO RESOLVE THEM ENCUMBERS BONN'S TIES WITH BOTH MOSCOW AND EAST BERLIN. THOUGH RECOGNIZING THE NECESSARILY CAUTIOUS NATURE OF BOELLING'S FORMULATION, STEFANOWICZ NOTED THAT THE GOVERN-
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MENT SPOKESMAN PROCLAIMED NORMALIZATION WITH POLAND AN IM-

PORTANT TASK OF FRG FOREIGN POLICY, ADDING, IN STEFANOWICZ'S PARAPHRASING, THE "SIGNIFICANT FORECAST" OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION THROUGH "AN EFFORT WHICH SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE". THOUGH PROFESSING NOT YET TO HAVE PERCEIVED SUCH AN EFFORT, STEFANOWICZ CONCLUDES THAT THESE STATEMENTS BY AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF THE CDU OPPOSITION AND BY A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN MAY SUGGEST THAT A CERTAIN "NECESSARY" REFLECTION IS OCCURRING IN BONN.

2. AN FRG EMBASSY OFFICIAL TOLD US HIS EMBASSY REPORTED THE STEFANOWICZ COMMENT TO BONN, BUT REGARDS IT AS LITTLE MORE THAN AN EXPRESSION OF GOOD WILL. THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT BOELLING'S STATEMENT, WHILE REFLECTING BONN'S DESIRE TO GET THE NORMALIZATION TALKS MOVING, ALSO CAREFULLY REAFFIRMS BONN'S POSITION ON THE ISSUES. THE FRG OFFICIAL WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, THAT BONN IS CONSIDERING A NEW PROPOSAL REGARDING CREDITS. HE ADDED THAT BOTH SIDES MAY REALIZE THAT THE ISSUE MUST BE JOINED BY THIS SUMMER IF IT IS NOT TO BE POSTPONED FOR A YEAR OR SO DUE TO THE POLISH PZPR'S CONGRESS PLANNED FOR LATER THIS YEAR AND GERMAN ELECTIONS NEXT YEAR.

3. THE POSSIBILITY OF A GIEREK-SCHMIDT MEETING DURING THE CSCE "SUMMIT" IN HELSINKI IS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY BOTH SIDES, ACCORDING TO THE FRG OFFICIAL. ALTHOUGH HE SAID NO FORMAL PROPOSAL HAS BEEN ADVANCED, HE INDICATED THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD SERVE AS A FACE-SAVING DEVICE TO SUSTAIN THE MOMENTUM IN BILATERAL POLITICAL RELATIONS IN CASE THERE HAS BEEN INSUFFICIENT PROGRESS TO WARRANT PLANNING FOR A GIEREK VISIT TO BONN.

4. COMMENT: STEFANOWICZ'S IS THE FIRST HOPEFUL EDITORIAL ADDRESSED TO BONN THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN SEVERAL MONTHS. IT SEEMS TO REPRESENT A SIGNAL THAT WARSAW IS ANXIOUS TO HEAR WHAT BONN MAY HAVE TO OFFER. HOWEVER, THERE HAS NOT BEEN THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF ANY SHIFT IN THE GOP POSITION ON THE ISSUES.
DAVIES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, AGREEMENTS, REPATRIATION, MEETINGS, PROPERTY WAR CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975WARSAW02449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750143-0147
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750422/aaaaauyi.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 WARSAW 2122
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG-POLISH RELATIONS: "SIGNALS FROM BEYOND THE ELBE"
TAGS: PFOR, PL, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006